

To: Representative Jonathan Steinberg  
Other Distinguished Members of the Public Health Committee

**Date:** March 6, 2022

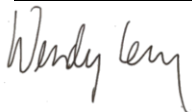
**Re: H.B. No. 5046 (COMM) AN ACT ADOPTING THE INTERSTATE MEDICAL LICENSURE COMPACT AND PSYCHOLOGY INTERJURISDICTIONAL COMPACT**

I am a licensed Psychologist in Connecticut in private practice in Westport for over twenty-five years. I operate an independent psychology practice in clinical and forensic matters, including providing outpatient psychotherapy and conducting forensic psychological evaluations. I specialize in Trauma, Abuse and Neglect, Domestic Violence, and Immigration Issues. I am writing in support of HB. No 5046 (AN ACT ADOPTING THE INTERSTATE MEDICAL LICENSURE COMPACT AND PSYCHOLOGY INTERJURISDICTIONAL COMPACT).

PSYPACT has the potential to increase access to care for a variety of individuals and to allow for greater continuity of care, via telehealth or otherwise. For example, I have ongoing patients who live in CT, but work or attend college 45 minutes away, but across state lines. Similarly, I have patients who must travel for serious emergencies, whom I am not able to support.

The COVID-19 pandemic has shown us the critical importance of telepsychology (telehealth) services, with the growing evidence and research demonstrating the efficacy of telehealth and how telehealth services increased access to care and contained costs for healthcare systems. Such an interstate licensure compact allows for Psychologists in Connecticut to practice for up to thirty days per year, telehealth or otherwise, in another PSYPACT state, when this might become necessary or desirable with a particular client or in a specific case.

To date, there are 28 PSYPACT participating states, and 9 with active PSYPACT legislations. I do not see any reasons for concern as a practicing Psychologist and as a Connecticut resident with our state joining PSYPACT, and believe firmly that doing so will ultimately be of considerable utility to a many Psychologists in this state toward the effective care of their clients. Any expense to Connecticut per Authorization Holder, upon becoming a Compact State, as determined by the PSYPACT Commission, would be a maximum of \$10 and could be as low as zero. Any charges by the PSYPACT Commission, would be borne by the Psychologists who opt to join PSYPACT. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.



Wendy Levy, PsyD  
Licensed Clinical Psychologist  
CTLic:002080

*Wendy Levy, PsyD*

*Clinical Forensic Psychologist*  
*Assistant Clinical Professor Psychiatry*  
*Yale University School of Medicine*  
<http://www.drwendylevy.com>

*1465 Post Road East*  
*Westport, CT. 06880*  
*(203) 221-8377 Ph*  
*(203) 292-3130. Fax*

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